# BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

No. 06-97-80757
ISION
Disciplinary Order in case number 06-97-80757 is
ity of the Medical Board of California as its
:00 p.m. on <u>February 7, 1999</u>
.00 p.m. on <u>February /, 1999</u>
DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
By_Klea Bertakis
KLEA BERTAKIS, M.D.
Panel A

DANIEL E. LUNGREN, Attorney General of the State of California CARLOS RAMIREZ (State Bar No. 89831) Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 300 South Spring Street, Suite 5212 Los Angeles, California 90013-1233 Telephone: (213) 897-6924 5 Attorneys for Complainant 6 7 **BEFORE THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY** MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA 8 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 In the Matter of the Accusation 11 Case No. 06-97-80757 Against: 12 OAH No. L-1998-080066 REYNALDO B. CASTILLO, M.D. STIPULATED SETTLEMENT 5153 Mt. Helena Avenue AND 13 Los Angeles, California 90041 DISCIPLINARY ORDER 14 Physician's and Surgeon's 15 Certificate No. A-39948, 16 Respondent. 17 18 19 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-entitled proceedings that the following 2.0 21 matters are true: An Accusation in case number 06-97-80757 was filed 22 1. with the Division of Medical Quality, of the Medical Board of 23 24 California Department of Consumer Affairs (the "Division") on 25 June 5, 1998, and is currently pending against Reynaldo B. 2.6 Castillo, M.D. (the "respondent"). 27 / / /

2.1

- 3. Complainant, Ron Joseph, is the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California and brought this action solely in his official capacity. The Complainant is represented by the Attorney General of California, Daniel E. Lungren, by and through Deputy Attorney General Carlos Ramirez.
- 4. At all times relevant herein, respondent has been licensed by the Medical Board of California under Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A-39948.
- 5. Respondent is represented in this matter by Rosa M. Mosley, Attorney at Law, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 2347, Chino, California 91708-2347.
- 6. Respondent has fully read and discussed the charges contained in Accusation Number 06-97-80757. Respondent has been fully advised regarding his legal rights and the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent understands the nature of the charges alleged in the Accusation and that, if proven at hearing, the charges and allegations would constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.

  Respondent is fully aware of his right to a hearing on the charges contained in the Accusation, his right to confront and

cross-examine witnesses against him, his right to the use of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents in both defense and mitigation of the charges, his right to reconsideration, court review and any and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

- 8. Respondent knowingly, voluntarily and irrevocably waives and gives up each of these rights.
- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every allegation of the Accusation No. 06-97-80757, and agrees that respondent has thereby subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate to disciplinary action. Respondent agrees to be bound by the Division's Disciplinary Order as set forth below.
- 10. The admissions made by respondent herein are for the purpose of this proceeding and any other proceedings in which the Division of Medical Quality, Medical Board of California, or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceedings.
- 11. Based on the foregoing admissions and stipulated matters, the parties agree that the Division shall, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following order:

#### **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate number A-39948 issued to Reynaldo B. Castillo, M.D., is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and respondent is

placed on probation for three years on the following terms and conditions. Within 15 days after the effective date of this decision the respondent shall provide the Division, or its designee, proof of service that respondent has served a true copy of this decision on the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to respondent or where respondent is employed to practice medicine and on the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier where malpractice insurance coverage is extended to respondent.

- days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall submit to the Division or its designee for its prior approval a community service program in which during the period of probation respondent shall provide free medical services on a regular basis to a community or charitable facility or agency for at least eight (8) hours a month.
- 2. ETHICS COURSE Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall enroll in a course in Ethics approved in advance by the Division or its designee, and shall successfully complete the course during the first year of probation.
- 3. MONITORING Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, respondent shall submit to the Division or its designee for its prior approval a plan of practice in which respondent's practice shall be monitored by another physician in respondent's field of practice, who shall

provide periodic reports to the Division or its designee.

2.0

If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, respondent shall, within fifteen (15) days, move to have a new monitor appointed, through nomination by respondent and approval by the Division or its designee.

4. OUTSIDE BILLING SERVICES Within thirty (30) days of respondent billing patients and third party payers for medical services which he provided, respondent shall submit to the Division or its designee for its prior approval the name of an outside billing service which will prepare respondent's bills in accordance with the law. The approved billing service shall provide periodic reports to the Division or its designee.

If the billing service is replaced by respondent or resigns or is no longer available, respondent shall, within fifteen (15) days, move to have a billing service appointed, through nomination by respondent and approval by the Division or its designee.

- 5. OBEY ALL LAWS Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments and other orders.
- 6. QUARTERLY REPORTS Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Division, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.
- 7. **PROBATION SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE** Respondent shall comply with the Division's probation surveillance program.

Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Division informed of his business and residence addresses which shall both serve as addresses of record. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Division. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record.

2.4

Respondent shall also immediately inform the Division, in writing, of any travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than thirty (30) days.

- PHYSICIAN(S) Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the Division, its designee or its designated physician(s) upon request at various intervals and with reasonable notice.
- PRACTICE In the event respondent should leave California to reside or to practice outside the State or for any reason should respondent stop practicing medicine in California, respondent shall notify the Division or its designee in writing within ten (10) days of the dates of departure and return or the dates of non-practice within California. Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding thirty (30) days in which respondent is not engaging in any activities defined in Sections 2051 and 2052 of the Business and Professions Code. All time spent in an intensive training program approved by the Division or its designee shall be considered as time spent in the practice of medicine. Periods of temporary or permanent residence or

practice outside California or of non-practice within California, as defined in this condition, will not apply to the reduction of the probationary period.

- 10. <u>COMPLETION OF PROBATION</u> Upon successful completion of probation, respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.
- probation in any respect, the Division, after giving respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an accusation or petition to revoke probation is filed against respondent during probation, the Division shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
- 12. <u>COST RECOVERY</u> The respondent is hereby ordered to reimburse the Division the amount of \$1,100 within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the effective date of this decision for its investigative and prosecution costs. Failure to reimburse the Division's cost of investigation and prosecution shall constitute a violation of the probation order, unless the Division agrees in writing to payment by an installment plan because of financial hardship. The filing of bankruptcy by the respondent shall not relieve the respondent of his responsibility to reimburse the Division for its investigative and prosecution costs.
- 13. **PROBATION COSTS** Respondent shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, which are currently set at \$ 2304.00, but may be

adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Division of Medical Quality and delivered to the designated probation surveillance monitor at the beginning of each calendar year. Failure to pay costs within 30 days of the due date shall constitute a violation of probation.

of this decision, if respondent ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, respondent may voluntarily tender his certificate to the Board. The Division reserves the right to evaluate the respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license, respondent will not longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation.

#### **CONTINGENCY**

This stipulation shall be subject to the approval of the Division of Medical Quality. Respondent understands and agrees that Board staff and counsel for complainant may communicate directly with the Division regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by respondent or his counsel. If the Division fails to adopt this stipulation as its Order, the stipulation shall be of no force or effect, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Division shall not be disqualified from further action in this matter by virtue of its consideration of this stipulation.

#### **ACCEPTANCE**

I have read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I fully understand the terms and conditions and other matters contained therein. I understand the effect this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate, and agree to be bound thereby. I enter this stipulation freely, knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily.

DATED:	10/12/98
	n. A
	REYNALDO B. CASTILLO, M.D.

Respondent

I have read and fully discussed the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order with respondent Reynaldo B. Castillo, M.D., and approve of its form and content.

DATED: 10-12-98

ROSA M. MOSLEY Attorney for Respondent

 Exhibit: Accusation shell.stp [1197 rev]

### **ENDORSEMENT**

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary
Order is hereby respectfully submitted for the consideration of
the Division of Medical Quality, Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs.

DATED: 10/16/98.

DANIEL E. LUNGREN, Attorney General of the State of California

CARLOS RAMIREZ

Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for Complainant

# EXHIBIT A Accusation No. 18-97-73741

DANIEL E. LUNGREN, Attorney General 1 of the State of California **FILED** CARLOS RAMIREZ (State Bar No. 89831) 2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 3 MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA 300 South Spring Street, Suite 5212 SACRAMENTO June 5 1998 Los Angeles, California 90013-1233 4 BY Hatty Johnson Telephone: (213) 897-6924 5 Attorneys for Complainant 6 **BEFORE THE** 7 DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA 8 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 Case No. 06-97-80757 Accusation ) 11 In the Matter of the Against: 12 **ACCUSATION** REYNALDO B. CASTILLO, M.D. 5153 Mt. Helena Avenue 13 Los Angeles, California 90041 14 Physician and Surgeon's Certificate No. A39948, 15 Respondent. 16 17 The Complainant alleges: 18 **PARTIES** 19 Ron Joseph ("Complainant") brings this accusation 1. 20 solely in his official capacity as the Executive Director of the 21 Medical Board of California (hereinafter the "Board"). 22 On or about June 24, 1983, Physician and Surgeon's 23 2. Certificate No. A39948 was issued by the Board to Reynaldo B. 24 Castillo, M.D. (hereinafter "respondent"). At all times relevant 25 to the charges brought herein, this license has been in full force 26 and effect. Unless renewed, it will expire on October 31, 1998.

#### JURISDICTION

- 3. This accusation is brought before the Division of Medical Quality of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs (hereinafter the "Division"), under the authority of the following sections of the Business and Professions Code (hereinafter "Code"):
  - A. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Division deems proper.
  - B. Section 2234 of the Code provides that unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:
    - (a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provision of this chapter.
    - (b) Gross negligence.
    - (c) Repeated negligent acts.
    - (d) Incompetence.
    - (e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
    - (f) Any action or conduct which would have warranted the denial of a certificate.

-21

- 21

- C. Section 2236 of the Code provides that:
- (a) The conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct. . . The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred.

. . .

- (c) . . . The division may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of a crime in order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if such conviction is of an offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
- (d) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section. . .
- D. Section 810, subdivision (a)(1), of the Code provides that it shall be unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of a license or certificate, for a health care professional to knowingly present or cause to be presented any false or fraudulent claim for the payment of a loss under a contract of insurance.

#### **COST RECOVERY**

E. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in part, that the Division may request the administrative law judge to direct any licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act, to pay the Division a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

#### **BUDGET ACT PROVISION**

- F. Section 16.01 of the 1997/1998 Budget Act of the State of California provides, in pertinent part, that:
- (a) No funds appropriated by this act may be expended to pay any Medi-Cal claim for any service performed by a physician while that physician's license is under suspension or revocation due to disciplinary action of the Medical Board of California.
- (b) No funds appropriated by this act may be expended to pay any Medi-Cal claim for any surgical services or other invasive procedure performed on any Medi-Cal beneficiary by a physician if that physician has been placed on probation due to a disciplinary action of the Medical Board of California related to the performance of that specific service or procedure on any patient, except in any case where the board makes a determination during its disciplinary process that there exist compelling circumstances that warrant continued Medi-Cal reimbursement during the probationary period.

- 21

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

(Conviction of a Crime)

- 4. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2234 and 2236 of the Code in that he has been convicted of a crime which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon. The circumstances are as follows:
  - A. On or about September 3, 1997, respondent was convicted by plea of nolo contendere to one count of a violation of Welfare and Institutions Code section 14107 (presenting for payment false or fraudulent Medi-Cal claims), in case number NA033806 of the Municipal Court for the Long Beach Judicial District, entitled, "The People of the State of California v. Reynaldo Castillo."
  - В. On or about September 1, 1994, Queen City Medical Clinic ("the clinic") opened for business in Long Beach. In its first month of operation, it submitted billings for Medi-Cal services in the amount of over \$246,000. billings included over 1,000 patient visits, and over 600 hours of services. The clinic was paid over \$63,000 for these services. Respondent was the sole medical alleged practitioner referenced in the submitted billings.
  - C. At the time the clinic began operation, and throughout September 1994, respondent was listed on the business license as the owner of the clinic. In addition, his signature is found on several official documents, including but not limited to the clinic's business license application,

fictitious name statement, Medi-Cal provider application, and bank account card.

In an interview with investigators, respondent D. denied being the owner of the clinic, and claimed instead to be only an employee; however, respondent did admit signing the aforementioned documents. Respondent claimed that his employment at the clinic lasted for only one month, and that he left the clinic at the end of that month. Respondent further claimed that while employed by the clinic he worked approximately 6 hours a day Monday through Friday, and an additional 3 hours on one or two Saturdays. Respondent estimated he treated approximately 25 to 30 patients a day during the week, and an additional 10 to 12 patients a day on the one or two Saturdays.

- E. Respondent's claims as to his hours at the clinic and how many patients he treated per day are in conflict with the billings submitted to Medi-Cal, which reflect treatment of 40 to 50 patients a day during the week. However, neither respondent's claims nor the submitted billings are correct; in fact, the clinic had few if any patients during September 1994, and the majority of the billings submitted for Medi-Cal reimbursement were fraudulent.
- F. As a result of the foregoing, respondent was charged with violations of the law as more particularly set forth above in subparagraph  $4\,(A)$ .

26

Į

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

#### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Knowingly presenting a false claim)

- 5. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 810 and 2234 of the Code in that he has knowingly presented or caused to be presented false or fraudulent claims for payment to Medi-Cal. The circumstances are as follows:
  - A. Paragraph 4, subparagraphs (A) (E), are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full at this point.

## THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dishonest or corrupt act)

- 6. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2234, subdivision (e), of the Code in that he has committed a dishonest or corrupt act which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon. The circumstances are as follows:
  - A. Paragraph 4, subparagraphs (A) (E), are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full at this point.

- 21

#### PRAYER

WHEREFORE, the complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Division issue a decision:

- Revoking or suspending Physician and Surgeon's Certificate Number A39948, heretofore issued to respondent Reynaldo B. Castillo, M.D.;
- Revoking, suspending or denying approval of supervise physician's respondent's authority to assistants, pursuant to section 3527 of the Code;
- Ordering respondent to pay the Division 3. reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case and, if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring;
- Taking such other and further action as the Division 4. deems necessary and proper.

June 5, 1998 DATED:

17

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

18

19

20

- 21

22 23

24

03573160-LA98AD0000 form\accuse.mbc [198 rev]

25

26

27

Ron Joseph

Executive Director

Medical Board of California Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant